

Subject: public comment on orcas in puget sound
From: Larry Stalnaker <lowrider3111@yahoo.com>
Date: Fri, 30 Jun 2006 14:03:40 -0700 (PDT)
To: orcahabitat.nwr@noaa.gov

Dear Sirs:

I am glad the federal government is attempting to secure 2,500 square miles of Washington's inland marine waters to protect the Puget Sound's orcas. Their habitat certainly needs to be protected to ensure their survival. But I am sorry to see that the draft map does not include shallow waters, coastal areas, the Hood Canal, & 18 military sites. NOAA should not automatically exclude these areas where chinook salmon reside, the orca's favorite food. The whales need more than water to swim in, they need food to survive.

The orcas are a great source of pleasure to this area. Their population is dwindling. At least last year the local pods [J, K, & L] received Endangered Species Act protection. That is wonderful. We do want our future generations to see these magnificent marine mammals. Thank you.

Marilyn Evenson
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